

Message Text

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43

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 DHA-02 SCA-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IOE-00

AID-05 IGA-02 FDRE-00 EUR-12 /087 W

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O P 241604Z AUG 76

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2026

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY

UNCLAS GENEVA 6751

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: LE, ICRC

SUBJ: ICRC DENIES ALLEGATION OF PARTIALITY BY "PALESTINIAN
RED CRESCENT"

1. INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS COMMITTEE (ICRC) HAS ISSUED PRESS
COMMUNIQUE NO. 1279, AUGUST 23, WHICH DENIES "PALESTINIAN
RED CRESCENT" CHARGE OF PARTIALITY BY ICRC IN ITS LEBANESE RELIEF
ACTIVITIES. TEXT OF COMMUNIQUE (INFORMAL MISSION TRANSLATION) FOLLOWS

:

QUOTE: POSITION OF THE ICRC ON DECLARATIONS OF "PALESTINIAN RED
CRESCENT". GENEVA (ICRC). IN COMMUNIQUE PUBLISHED AUGUST 21
IN BEIRUT THE "PALESTINIAN RED CRESCENT" INDICATES THAT THE INTER-
NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (ICRC) HAS SHOWN PARTIALITY
IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF ASSISTANCE TO THE VICTIMS OF THE CONFLICT.

THE ICRC STATES SPECIFICALLY THAT FOLLOWING ITS FUNDAMENTAL
PRINCIPLES ITS RELIEF ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN ON BEHALF OF ALL VICTIMS
OF THE FIGHTING AND IS BASED ONLY ON THE CRITERIA OF
HUMANITARIAN REQUIREMENTS AND NEEDS DETERMINED ON THE SCENE.

THE DISTRIBUTIONS MADE AS OF THIS DATE IN LEBANON SINCE
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THE BEGINNING OF 1976 ARE THR FOLLOWING:

TO PROGRESSIVES AND PALESTINIANS: 356 TONS
CONSERVATIVES: 191 TONS
LOCAL INSTITUTIONS CARING FOR BOTH PARTIES: 203 TONS.
THE ICRC WISHES AT THE SAME TIME TO EMPHASIZE THAT ITS
ACTIVITY IS NOT LIMITED ENTIRELY TO DISTRIBUTION OF AID, AND THAT 47
DELEGATES ARE NOW ENGAGED IN PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE
ACTIVITIES AS WAS THE CASE NOTABLY IN THE OPERATIONS FOR THE
EVACUATION OF TALL EL-ZAATAR. UNQUOTE

2. COMMENT: "PALESTINIAN RED CRESCENT" CHARGE AND ICRC
RESPONSE HAVE RECEIVED CONSIDERABLE MEDIA COVERAGE HERE.
QUESTION WAS ALSO RAISED DURING TELEVISED PRESS CONFERENCE
GIVEN HERE LAST THURSDAY BY ICRC'S CHIEF DELEGATE
IN BEIRUT, JEAN HOEFLINGER, WHO CATEGORICALLY DENIED CHARGES.
CATTO

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Event:
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